Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 SEOUL 02642 310721Z ACTION SS-25

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FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL

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AMEMBASSY TOKYO IMMEDIATE

CONFIDENTIAL SEOUL 2642

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PEPR KS YO KN US

SUBJ: YUGOSLAV INITIATIVE FOR TRIPARTITE KOREA TALKS

REF: (A) SEOUL 2551, (B) SEOUL 2518, (C) SEOUL 2603

- 1. PRESIDENTIAL SECRETARY CHOI KWANG SOO CALLED ME TODAY (MARCH 31) TO PROVIDE RESPONSE TO MY APPROACH REPORTED REFTEL A ON KOREAN REACTION TO TITO'S PROPOSAL FOR TRIPARTITE KOREA CONFERENCE. CHOI SAID THAT MY VIEWS HAD BEEN TRANSMITTED TO PRESIDENT, SENIOR BLUE HOUSE STAFF AND PRIMIN.
- 2. CHOI INFORMED ME THAT VIEWS TRANSMITTED TO ME BY FOREIGN MINISTER (REF B) REFLECTED POSITION OF "CABINET". HOWEVER, FONMIN HAS BEEN ASKED TO REAPPRAISE SITUATION IN LIGHT OF MY APPROACH. CHOI WARNED THAT FONMIN MIGHT VERY WELL COME UP WITH SAME ANSWER.
- 3. COMMENT: WHILE CHOI'S CLEAR DIFFERENTIATION BETWEEN "CABINET" AND PRESIDENT AND DIRECTIVE TO FONMIN TO REAPPRAISE KOREAN POSITION, WHICH HE REFUSED TO DO WHEN I SAW HIM, MAY INDICATE POSSIBILITY OF CHANGE IN KOREAN POSITION, I AM NOT TOO OPTIMISTIC IN LIGHT OF UNCONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 02 SEOUL 02642 310721Z

FORTUNATE MAINICHI PRESS LEAK. OBVIOUSLY GOVERNMENT-ORCHESTRATED LOCAL EDITORIAL REACTION (REPORTED SEPTEL) IS UNIFORMLY NEGATIVE. BEST PROSPECT STILL SEEMS TO LIE IN APPROACH SUGGESTED BY EMBASSY (REF C). SNEIDER

	Sheryl P. Walter	Declassified/Released	US Department of State	EO Systematic Review	20 Mar 2014
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Message Attributes

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To: STATE Type: TE

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